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McCone for Dulles

With the appointment of his successor, Allen Dulles is closing out a long and distinguished career of service to his country. He filled governmental posts under eight presidents, beginning with Woodrow Wilson, often positions of tremendous responsibility. His directorship of the Central Intelligence Agency was only the latest of these.

Dulles' usefulness as CIA chief, however, has been compromised because of the hints of blame falling upon him as a result of recent intelligence reverses suffered by the U.S. Nobody really knows whether he was at fault—probably he wasn't—but in the eyes of America's allies and some Americans he was.

In this instance, as in some others, the facts are not as important as the appearance of those facts. Therefore the appointment of a successor seems to serve the national interest.

McCone will be able to operate as a new broom in the CIA. He will be free of the built-in limitations suffered by Dulles as a result of the outside view that he blundered—correct or incorrect—in the U2 and Cuban incidents.

McCone has a record of devoted service to the nation. Whether he can match the nation's enemies in intelligence activities will only be determined by results. But if he is real-

istic he must know the hazards of the job—not the least of which is being the "fall guy" to take the blame when things go wrong.

And if he doesn't know this, he can just consult his predecessor.